

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5 A virtual volume management system and method includes a storage area network having multiple disparate types of storage devices and multiple virtual storage volumes available to a user for use in storage and retrieval of user data. The virtual volume management system and method further include a storage pool linked to at least one of the virtual storage volumes, and a controller for automatically allocating at least two of the storage devices to the pool. The controller partitions and concatenates the storage devices of the pool for storage and retrieval of user data.